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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

CRENSHAW, MARVIN P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2854

DATE MAILED: 06/20/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/009,774

Applicant(s)

GLIZE, JEAN-PIERRE

Examiner

Marvin P. Crenshaw

Art Unit

2854

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

In claim 15, it refers to having “an upstream tab and a downstream tab”, are these tabs the same as “a tab” claimed in claim 14? Appropriate correction is required.

In claim 16, it refers to “an angle”, is this the same as the “chosen angle” in claim 14? Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 12, 13 and 18 – 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oshino et al. in view of Esaku.

Oshino et al. teaches a ticket printing device (Fig. 1) comprising at least one thermal print head (1), driving (21) means arranged to move a ticket (P) across the print head presenting a first principal face of the ticket to the print head and means for guidance capable of imparting a direction of travel to the ticket and wherein said driving means includes a block (5) applied against a second face of the ticket, opposite to the first principal face.

However, Oshino et al. doesn't teach a first powered rotating roller capable of causing the ticket to move and a second idling roller extending beyond the powered roller which is used to drive tickets of different widths in the direction of travel.

Esaku teaches a first powered rotating roller (8) capable of causing the media to move and a second idling (14) roller extending beyond the powered roller which is used to drive media of different widths in the direction of travel.

It would have been obvious to modify Oshino et al. to have a first powered rotating roller capable of causing the ticket to move and a second idling roller extending beyond the powered roller which is used to drive tickets of different widths in the direction of travel as taught by Esaku to enable the split roller to be independently rotated and prevent a frictional force from being generated at the part of direct contact of the thermal head.

With respect to claim 13, the powered roller and the idling roller of the proposed modified device of Oshino et al. are cylindrical in shape, co-axial, similar in radius and substantially juxtaposed.

With respect to claim 18, Oshino et al. teaches a device (Fig. 2) comprising means of supporting the print head including a flexible plate (4) fixed on one hand to the print head and on the other hand to a mounting integral (10) with the block together with a rigid plate (3) fixed to the print head and equipped with an end bar (26) substantially parallel to the direction of travel and seated so as to rotate about an axis substantially parallel to the direction of travel in an aperture incorporated into the mounting such that

said rigid plate is capable of preventing pitching motion of the print head while at the same time allowing a rolling motion about said axis.

With respect to claim 19, Oshino et al. teaches a device further comprising means (31) of pushing the plate against the block, the print head being in a position facing the block.

With respect to claim 20, to have a device wherein the pushing means includes an electro-magnetic actuated electrically as claimed is merely automating the manual activity of Oshino et al., which would be obvious for making the device more efficient.

With respect to claim 21, Oshino et al. doesn't teaches a device wherein the thermal print head is capable of printing barcodes but it is inherent since printers can be used to print any desired graphic.

Claims 14 – 16 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oshino et al. in view of Esaku, and further in view of Fujitsu.

Oshino et al. and Esaku together teach all that is claimed, as discussed in the above rejection of claims 12,13 and 18-21, except a device wherein the guidance means includes facing the powered roller, at least one wall parallel to an edge of the ticket forming a tab capable of defining the direction of travel of the ticket while the block forms a chosen angle with said direction of travel, a device wherein the guidance means includes along the direction of travel an upstream tab and a downstream tab substantially juxtaposed and placed on either side of the powered roller, including the device wherein the block forms in a direction from the powered roller towards the print

head, an angle between 89 and 90 , and a device wherein the ticket includes magnetic information and the device further comprises a magnetic recording head while the print head is arranged to operate in conjunction with the magnetic recording station to print barcodes matching the magnetic information recorded on the ticket.

Fujitsu teaches a device wherein the guidance (Fig. 10, 48) means includes facing the powered roller, at least one wall parallel to an edge of the ticket forming a tab capable of defining the direction of travel of the ticket while the block forms a chosen angle with said direction of travel, a device wherein the guidance (Fig. 10, 48) means includes along the direction of travel an upstream tab (on one side of the roller) and a downstream tab (on the other side of the roller) substantially juxtaposed and placed on either side of the powered roller and a device (Fig. 1) wherein the ticket includes magnetic information and the device further comprises a magnetic recording head (5) while the print head is arranged to operate in conjunction with the magnetic recording station to print barcodes matching the magnetic information recorded on the ticket.

With respect to claim 14 and 15, it would have been obvious to modify Oshino et al. as modified by Esaku to have a guidance means as taught by Fujitsu to guide and hold the ticket in it's proper position as it is being printed on.

With respect to claim 22, it would have been obvious to modify the ticket device of Oshino et al. as modified by Esaku to have a device wherein the ticket includes magnetic information and the device further comprises a magnetic recording head while the print head is arranged to operate in conjunction with the magnetic recording station to print barcodes matching the magnetic information recorded on the ticket as taught by

Fujitsu to read the information on the ticket then to print the information on the ticket other side.

With respect to claim 16, it would be obvious through a slight tolerance in a manufacturers build that the block would be in the region of 89.7 .

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oshino et al. in view of Esaku, and further in view of Brooks et al.

Oshino et al. and Esaku together teach all that is claimed, as discussed in the above rejection of claims 12,13 and 18-21, except a thermal print head includes a plurality of resistance heat elements capable of releasing heat to enable printing of the ticket and the device further comprising means to electrically test the plurality of resistance elements, one by one, said testing means utilizing an addressing module for the plurality of resistance elements.

Brooks et al. teaches a thermal print head (11) includes a plurality of resistance heat elements capable of releasing heat to enable printing of the ticket and the device further comprising means (See col. 6, lines 7 – 66) to electrically test the plurality of resistance elements, one by one, said testing means (19) utilizing an addressing module for the plurality of resistance elements.

It would have been obvious to modify the ticket printing device of Oshino et al. as modified by Esaku to have a thermal print head includes a plurality of resistance heat elements capable of releasing heat to enable printing of the ticket and the device further comprising means to electrically test the plurality of resistance elements, one by one,

said testing means utilizing an addressing module for the plurality of resistance elements as taught by Brooks et al. to ensure that ink is being properly extracted from the print head and to test the resistance elements to ensure that they are functioning correctly.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marvin P. Crenshaw whose telephone number is (703) 308-0797. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (703) 305-6619. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



MPC
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